

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.(Amended) A floor mat comprising

a non-woven carpet pile substrate;

a pile material tufted into said non-woven carpet pile substrate which forms a pile surface

on one side of said substrate; and

a vulcanized expanded rubber backing sheet of rubber integrated to the other side of the

[carrier fabric]carpet pile substrate,

wherein said rubber backing sheet comprises a blowing agent to produce a closed

cell structure foam rubber;

and

optionally, solid vulcanized rubber reinforcement strips present along at least one of the

borders of the mat; wherein said floor mat possesses suitable flexibility to be laundered on a

regular basis in a standard industrial washing machine without appreciably damaging said mat or

said machine; and

wherein said non-woven carpet pile substrate possesses a heat shrinkage factor of from

about 2.0 to about 2.5% and said rubber backing sheet possesses a heat shrinkage factor of from

about 2.0 to about 2.5%.

Cancel Claim 9.

11.(Amended) A floor mat comprising
a non-woven carpet pile substrate;
a pile material tufted into said non-woven carpet pile substrate which forms a pile surface
on one side of said substrate;
a vulcanized expanded rubber backing sheet of rubber integrated to the other side of the
[carrier fabric]carpet pile substrate, and
optionally, solid vulcanized rubber reinforcement strips present along at least a plurality
of borders of the mat;
wherein said floor mat possesses suitable flexibility to be laundered on a regular basis in
a standard industrial washing machine without appreciably damaging said mat or said machine;
wherein said non-woven carpet pile substrate possesses a shrinkage factor of from about
2.0 to about 2.5%; and
wherein both said rubber backing sheet and said vulcanized solid rubber reinforcement
strips possess a modulus strength of greater than about 1,000 pounds per square inch.

A2

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-17 are pending within this application. Claims 1 and 11 have been
amended. Claim 9 has been deleted. No new Claims have been added. The amendments to the
specification have been made in response to the objection to the Specification by the Office. The